



AGING & INDEPENDENCE SERVICES
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO • HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
LONG TERM CARE INTEGRATION PROJECT

Aging & Independence Services (AIS)
Long Term Care Integration Project (LTCIP)
Update for the Health Services Advisory Board (HSAB)
January 21, 2016

The goal of the Long Term Care Integration Project (LTCIP) is to improve the delivery of health care and long term services and supports for older adults and persons with disabilities. This report includes updates on some key LTCIP activities.

The LTCIP has been awarded another two-year grant by The SCAN Foundation to continue serving as the Regional Aging and Disability Service and Advocacy Coalition for San Diego County. As the Regional Coalition, the LTCIP will support the transformation of long term services and supports (LTSS) by advancing the LTCIP's policy agenda and partnering with healthcare and LTSS providers to deliver coordinated, person-centered care for older adults and persons with disabilities. The LTCIP has been privileged to serve as the Regional Aging and Disability Service and Advocacy Coalition for San Diego County since January 2014 and has provided leadership for the implementation of the Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI) in San Diego County and the transformation of LTSS in our region and statewide.

Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC)

The Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC), a partnership between AIS and Access to Independence, the Independent Living Center for San Diego and Imperial Counties, was established under the LTCIP in 2004 as one of the first in the country. The ADRC has improved access to Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) by providing persons of all ages, abilities, and incomes and their caregivers and service providers with free, comprehensive information about LTSS, streamlined access to important programs, resources, services, transitions service and application assistance for entitlement programs. The LTCIP, as the Regional Coalition, will continue its work to expand existing core services to include procurement and coordination of contracted HCBS as well as assessment, care planning and care coordination for individuals with complex medical and social needs. In addition, LTCIP Leadership will be providing technical assistance to fellow Regional Coalitions across the state who are working to establish and/or expand their local ADRCs.

The Community-based Care Transitions Program (CCTP)

CCTP was established under Section 3026 of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in 2011 as a 5-year demonstration to link community based organizations with hospitals to improve care that high risk Medicare patients receive as they transition across different care settings, reduce the readmission rate for high risk patients and reduce Medicare spending. The San Diego Care Transitions Partnership (SDCTP), a partnership between AIS and Palomar Health, Scripps Health, Sharp HealthCare and the UCSD Health System (13 hospitals) has provided comprehensive, person-centered, health care and social services to over 41,000 high-risk, fee-for-service (FFS) Medicare patients across thirteen participating hospitals since its inception in January 2013. The SDCTP's success has resulted in an extension of the Program Agreement with CMS through June 30, 2016. Although without Congressional action to extend the program and allocate additional funding, CCTP will end. However, the SDCTP is committed to continuing its success in 2016 and working collaboratively to sustain key components of the program in the future through alternative payment options.

On January 7, 2016, AIS Director, Ellen Schmeding, AIS LTCIP Manager, Brenda Schmitthenner, and CCTP Consultant, Dr. Joanne Lynn, were privileged to meet in Washington, DC with Dr. Patrick Conway, Deputy Administrator for Innovation & Quality, CMS Chief Medical Officer, and Senior Leadership from CCTP and the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) to discuss the future of the SDCTP and other successful CCTPs. Dr. Conway acknowledged the great success of the SDCTP and pledged support from both the CCTP and CMMI Teams to work with the SDCTP in coming months on activities that include program evaluation, an actuarial analysis and publication of program outcomes. Dr. Conway encouraged the SDCTP to consider new funding opportunities to sustain the partnership between AIS and San Diego's acute and post-acute providers.

The Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI)

At the CCI Advisory Committee meeting on January 6, 2015 updates on consumer experience were shared by key stakeholders. Beneficiaries who opted out of Cal MediConnect are continuing to face challenges related to balance billing, as some physicians are still refusing to work with their patient's health plan and hence are shifting the financial burden to the beneficiary. As of January 8, 2016 the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) had not published December's enrollment data for Cal MediConnect.

On December 30, 2015 the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) officially approved the five-year, \$6.2 billion federal 1115 waiver for California, also known as Medi-Cal 2020. Effective January 1, 2016, Medi-Cal 2020 provides the authority to continue the CCI through December 2020. On January 7, 2016, Governor Brown released his proposed FY 2016-2017 state budget, which stated that his Administration will continue to support the implementation of CCI through 2016 by working to increase participation in Cal MediConnect and extend an allowable managed care organization (MCO) tax. However, if the MCO tax is not extended and Cal MediConnect enrollment does not improve by January 2017, the CCI would cease operating effective January 2018.

Brenda Schmitthenner, MPA, Aging Program Administrator
Health and Human Services Agency, Aging & Independence Services (AIS)
Manager of the Long Term Care Integration Project (LTCIP)